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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No. : PCT/EP2005/000444

Applicant : MEINHERZ, Manfred, et al.

Int'l Filing Date: March 8, 2005

Docket No. : 2004P04296

Customer No.: 24131

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

- Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.
- A new Abstract appears on a separate sheet, page 3.
- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.
- Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.